CLAIM AMENDMENTS:

Pending Claims

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A method of remotely servicing a scanner from a central service facility, comprising the steps of:

monitoring traffic passing through a location on a local area network, said traffic comprising files or objects of digital image data that conform ~~conforms~~ to a communications protocol in accordance with which each file or object has a header comprising an origination address that is the address of the respective device that transmitted the file or object onto said local area network and a destination address that is the address of the particular device destined to receive that file or object from said local area network, said monitoring step being performed by a computerized device that is connected to said location on said local area network and has an address different than the destination address;

transmitting an instruction signal from a central service facility to said computerized device via a network other than said local area network, said instruction containing the address of a specified scanner that is connected to said local area network, wherein said computerized device captures any file or object passing through said location on ~~capturing from~~ said local area network ~~traffic~~ that has a header with an address identifying ~~data originated from~~ said specified scanner as the transmitting device, while not capturing any file or object passing through said location that has a header with an address identifying a transmitting device different than said specified scanner, said captured file or object ~~data~~ comprising at least one image frame;

sending said captured file or object from said computerized device ~~data~~ to [[a]] said central service facility via said other network; and

displaying said image frame at said central service facility[[,]].

~~wherein said monitoring, capturing and sending steps are performed by a computerized device.~~

Claim 2 (Original): The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the step of diagnosing an image quality problem of said specified scanner that is visible in said displayed image frame.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The method as recited in claim 1, wherein said other network is ~~captured data is sent from said computerized device to said central service facility via~~ a virtual private network.

Claim 4 (Canceled).

Claim 5 (Original): The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the step of downloading programming to said computerized device via a wide area network, said programming enabling said computerized device to perform said monitoring, capturing and sending steps.

Claim 6 (Original): The method as recited in claim 5, further comprising the steps of sending an authorization code from said computerized device to a server via said wide area network, and downloading said programming from said server to said computerized device only if said authorization code is valid.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): The method as recited in claim 1, wherein said communications protocol is DICOM ~~and said data comprises DICOM image files~~.

Claim 8 (Canceled).

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): A system comprising:

a local area network;

a receiving device connected to said local area network;

a scanner connected to said local area network and having a capability of sending to said receiving device, via said local area network, image files formatted in accordance with a communications protocol, each image file incorporating at least one image frame;

a first computerized device at a central service facility;

a second computerized device connected to said local area network and programmed with data capture software to capture an image file on said local area network that originated from said scanner, but has a destination address that identifies said receiving device, in response to said scanner being specified as a target, and to not capture any image file on said local area network that originated from any scanner not specified as a target; and

a communications channel for connecting said first computerized device to said second computerized device,

wherein said scanner is specified as a target by transmission of an instruction from said first computerized device to said second computerized device via said communications channel.

Claim 10 (Original): The system as recited in claim 9, wherein said data capture software comprises programming for sending said captured image file to said central service facility via said communications channel.

Claim 11 (Original): The system as recited in claim 9, wherein said communications channel is part of a virtual private network.

Claim 12 (Original): The system as recited in claim 9, wherein said communications protocol is DICOM.

Claim 13 (Original): The system as recited in claim 9, further comprising a server programmed to send said data capture software to said second computerized device via said communications channel.

Claim 14 (Original): The system as recited in claim 13, wherein said server is programmed to send said data capture software to said computerized device only in response to receipt of a valid authorization code from said computerized device.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): A method of remotely servicing any one of a multiplicity of scanners connected to a local area network ~~a scanner~~ from a central service facility, comprising the steps of:

specifying one of said scanners ~~scanner~~ connected to [[a]] said local area network;

capturing a DICOM object from traffic on said local area network, said DICOM object comprising data reflecting origination from said specified scanner, data reflecting destination to a receiving device connected to said local area network, and data for at least one image frame acquired by said specified scanner;

sending said captured DICOM object to a central service facility via a network other than said local area network; and

diagnosing a problem associated with said specified scanner using said captured DICOM object received at said

central service facility,

wherein said capturing and sending steps are performed by a computerized device connected to said local area network and having an address different than the address of said receiving device.

Claim 16 (Original): The method as recited in claim 15, wherein said captured DICOM object is sent from said computerized device to said central service facility via a virtual private network.

Claim 17 (Original): The method as recited in claim 15, wherein said scanner is specified in a communication sent from said central service facility to said computerized device.

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): A system comprising a network, a communications channel, a data capture device connected to said network and to said communications channel, and a multiplicity of scanners, each scanner being programmed to construct image files in accordance with a communications protocol, said ~~scanner~~ scanners being connected to said network, wherein said data capture device comprises a computer programmed to perform the following steps:

capturing, from traffic on said network, image files originating from one of said ~~scanner~~ scanners in response to receipt via said communications channel of a communication specifying said source, while not capturing any image files originating from other scanners not specified; and

sending said captured image file to a destination via said communications channel,

wherein said destination is different than the destination identified by a destination address that is part of the captured image file.

Claim 19 (Original): The system as recited in claim 18, wherein said network is a local area network and said communications channels forms part of a virtual private network.

Claim 20 (Original): The system as recited in claim 18, wherein said communications protocol is DICOM.

Claims 21-23 (Canceled).

Claim 24 (Currently Amended): A method of remotely servicing a scanner from a central service facility, comprising the steps of:

specifying a value identifying a scanner to a computerized device, said scanner and said computerized device each being connected to a local area network;

monitoring traffic on said local area network, said traffic comprising data that conforms to a communications protocol in accordance with which each transmitted data file or object comprises an origination device field containing a value identifying the device that transmitted the data file or object and a destination device field containing a value identifying the device to which the data file or object is being sent, and said monitoring step comprising monitoring the data files or objects transmitted on said local area network to detect the presence of said value identifying said scanner in the origination device field of any transmitted data file or object;

capturing from said local area network traffic [[a]] any data file or object originated from said specified scanner in response to detecting the presence of said value identifying said scanner in the origination device field in said captured data file or object, while not capturing any data file or object originated from any scanner not specified, said captured data file or object further comprising at least one image frame and a value in the destination device field that identifies a device

different than said computerized device;

sending said captured data file or object to a central service facility; and

displaying said image frame at said central service facility,

wherein said monitoring, capturing and sending steps are performed by said computerized device.